

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action mailed November 14, 2006, the Examiner took the following action: (1) rejected claims 1-2, 4-7, 18-19, 21-22, 33, and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Pyron (*Using Microsoft Project 98: Special Edition*); and (2) rejected claims 3, 20, and 34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pyron in view of official notice by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request entry of the above-proposed amendments, as well as reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-2, 4-7, 18-19, 21-22, 33, and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Pyron. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections, and submit the claims are allowable over the cited reference to Pyron.

Pyron (*Using Microsoft Project 98: Special Edition*)

Pyron is a reference book that teaches aspects of Microsoft Project 98. Microsoft Project 98 is a software program that facilitates the completion of projection by enabling a user to schedule tasks and resources. (Page 2, Paragraphs 5-6).

Claims 1-2 and 4-7

Claim 2 and 4-7 depend from claim 1. Claim 1, as amended, recites:

1. A method, comprising:
collaboratively performing a number of tasks by a plurality of parties,
wherein each task requires a series of collaborative actions;
recording the series of collaborative actions into a script database;
*recording at least one issue and at least one issue resolution
associated with at least one of the tasks into an issue database;*
displaying a status of the series of collaborative actions taken in each
of the tasks, wherein the status of each task may be simultaneously

viewed by one or more of the plurality of parties, and wherein displaying the status includes:

- indicating two or more tasks including at least one of indicating whether a part has not started, is in work, or has been completed;

- indicating a last action completed within each of the tasks that are in work;

- displaying a total number of actions in each of the tasks;

- displaying a percentage of the number of actions completed for each of the tasks; and

- for each task, displaying a bar graph having a shaded portion corresponding to a percentage of the assigned actions completed for each of the tasks. (emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 is patentable over Pyron. Specifically, Pyron does not teach or suggest, *“recording at least one issue and at least one issue resolution associated with at least one of the tasks into an issue database,”* as recited in claim 1. (emphasis added). Instead, Pyron teaches a “TeamAssign response form” that allows a participant to provide comments and explanations about the participant’s *acceptance or rejection* of task assignments. (Page 584, Figure 18.27). Furthermore, because claims 2 and 4-7 depend from claim 1, they are also allowable over Pyron for at least the same reason claim 1 is allowable, as well as for additional limitations recited.

Claims 18-19 and 21-22

Claim 19 and 21-22 depend from claim 18. Claim 18, as amended, recites:

18. A time management system for reducing the overall time required for more than one party to collaborate on a number of tasks, said system comprising:

- a script database;

- a *web page-based* input component configured to receive a series of collaborative actions of one or more tasks;

- a recording component configured to record the series of collaborative actions of one or more tasks into said script database, the one or more tasks being collaboratively performed by more than one party; and

- a display component configured to display a status of the actions taken in each of the tasks to each party, including:

- a first portion configured to display a total number of actions in each of the tasks;
- a second portion configured to display a percentage of the number of actions completed for each of the tasks;
- a third portion configured to indicate a last action completed within each of the tasks that are in work;
- a fourth portion configured to display a total number of actions in each of the tasks; and
- a fifth portion configured to display a percentage of the number of actions completed for each of the tasks, the fifth portion being further configured to display a bar graph having a shaded portion corresponding to a percentage of the assigned actions completed for each of the tasks. (emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that claim 18 is patentable over Pyron. Specifically, Pyron does not teach or suggest, “a *web page-based* input component configured to receive a series of collaborative actions of one or more tasks,” as recited in claim 18. Instead, Pyron teaches a “Save as HTML” feature that enables a user to *save* his or her project “as an HTML document that can be *published* to an Internet Web site or corporate intranet.” This disclosure of Pyron regarding *saving* a project as a HTML document so that it can be *published* does not teach or suggest a *web page-based input* component. (Pages 402-2, 467, and 575). Furthermore, because claims 19 and 21-22 depend from claim 18, they are also allowable over Pyron for at least the same reason claim 18 is allowable, as well as for additional limitations recited.

Claims 33 and 35

Claim 35 depends from claim 33. Claim 33, as amended, recites:

33. A computer readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer system to perform a method, the method comprising:
- receiving a plurality of tasks that are collaboratively performed between parties *via a web page-based input interface*, wherein each of said tasks includes a series of collaborative actions;
 - recording the series of collaborative actions into a script database;
 - displaying a status of the actions taken in each of task including:

indicating two or more tasks including at least one of indicating whether a part has not started, is in work, or has been completed;
indicating a last action completed within each of the tasks that are in work;
displaying a total number of actions in each of the tasks; and
displaying a percentage of the number of actions completed for each of the tasks, including displaying a bar graph having a shaded portion corresponding to the percentage for each of the tasks; and
providing immediate access to each party to allow viewing of the status of each task, thereby reducing the overall time required for the parties to perform the collaborative tasks. (emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that claim 33 is patentable over Pyron. Specifically, applicants respectfully incorporate the argument presented above in response to the rejections of claims 18-19, 21-22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) by analogy, and assert that Pyron does not teach or suggest, “receiving a plurality of tasks that are collaboratively performed between parties *via a web page-based input interface*,” as recited in claim 33. Furthermore, because claim 35 depends from claim 33, it is also allowable over Pyron for at least the same reason claim 33 is allowable, as well as for additional limitations recited.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 3, 20, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pyron in view of official notice by the Examiner.

Claim 3

Claim 3 depends from claim 1. Claim 1, as amended, recites:

1. A method, comprising:
collaboratively performing a number of tasks by a plurality of parties,
wherein each task requires a series of collaborative actions;
recording the series of collaborative actions into a script database;
*recording at least one issue and at least one issue resolution
associated with at least one of the tasks into an issue database;*

displaying a status of the series of collaborative actions taken in each of the tasks, wherein the status of each task may be simultaneously viewed by one or more of the plurality of parties, and wherein displaying the status includes:

- indicating two or more tasks including at least one of indicating whether a part has not started, is in work, or has been completed;
- indicating a last action completed within each of the tasks that are in work;
- displaying a total number of actions in each of the tasks;
- displaying a percentage of the number of actions completed for each of the tasks; and
- for each task, displaying a bar graph having a shaded portion corresponding to a percentage of the assigned actions completed for each of the tasks. (emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that the cited reference to Pyron and the Examiner's official notice, whether individually or in combination, do not disclose, teach or fairly suggest every aspect of claim 1. First, applicants respectfully incorporate the argument presented above in response to the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) by reference, and reassert that Pyron does not teach or suggest, "recording at least one *issue* and at least one *issue resolution* associated with at least one of the tasks into an *issue database*," (emphasis added). Second, applicants respectfully submit that the deficiencies of Pyron are not remedied by the Examiner's official notice that it is well known that project management systems can indicate locations where tasks are performed.

Accordingly, the cited reference to Pyron and the Examiner's official notice, whether individually or in combination, do not teach, disclose or fairly suggest the system recited in claim 1. Furthermore, since claim 3 depends from claim 1, it is at least allowable for the same reason that makes claim 1 allowable over the cited references, as well as for additional limitations recited.

Claim 20

Claim 20 depends from claim 18. Claim 18, as amended, recites:

18. A time management system for reducing the overall time required for more than one party to collaborate on a number of tasks, said system comprising:
- a script database;
 - a *web page-based* input component configured to receive a series of collaborative actions of one or more tasks;
 - a recording component configured to record the series of collaborative actions of one or more tasks into said script database, the one or more tasks being collaboratively performed by more than one party; and
 - a display component configured to display a status of the actions taken in each of the tasks to each party, including:
 - a first portion configured to display a total number of actions in each of the tasks;
 - a second portion configured to display a percentage of the number of actions completed for each of the tasks;
 - a third portion configured to indicate a last action completed within each of the tasks that are in work;
 - a fourth portion configured to display a total number of actions in each of the tasks; and
 - a fifth portion configured to display a percentage of the number of actions completed for each of the tasks, the fifth portion being further configured to display a bar graph having a shaded portion corresponding to a percentage of the assigned actions completed for each of the tasks. (emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that the cited reference to Pyron and the Examiner's official notice, whether individually or in combination, do not disclose, teach or fairly suggest every aspect of claim 18. First, applicants respectfully incorporate the argument presented above in response to the rejection of claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) by reference, and reassert that Pyron does not teach or suggest, "a *web page-based* input component configured to receive a series of collaborative actions of one or more tasks." (emphasis added). Second, applicants respectfully submit that the deficiencies of Pyron are not remedied by the Examiner's official notice that it is well known that project management systems can indicate locations where tasks are performed.

Accordingly, the cited reference to Pyron and the Examiner's official notice, whether individually or in combination, do not teach, disclose or fairly suggest the system recited in

claim 18. Furthermore, since claim 20 depends from claim 18, it is at least allowable for the same reason that makes claim 18 allowable over the cited references, as well as for additional limitations recited.

Claim 34

Claim 34 depends from claim 33. Claim 33, as amended, recites:

33. A computer readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer system to perform a method, the method comprising:

- receiving a plurality of tasks that are collaboratively performed between parties *via a web page-based input interface*, wherein each of said tasks includes a series of collaborative actions;
- recording the series of collaborative actions into a script database;
- displaying a status of the actions taken in each of task including:
 - indicating two or more tasks including at least one of indicating whether a part has not started, is in work, or has been completed;
 - indicating a last action completed within each of the tasks that are in work;
 - displaying a total number of actions in each of the tasks; and
 - displaying a percentage of the number of actions completed for each of the tasks, including displaying a bar graph having a shaded portion corresponding to the percentage for each of the tasks; and
- providing immediate access to each party to allow viewing of the status of each task, thereby reducing the overall time required for the parties to perform the collaborative tasks. (emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that the cited reference to Pyron and the Examiner's official notice, whether individually or in combination, do not disclose, teach or fairly suggest every aspect of claim 33. First, applicants respectfully incorporate the argument presented above in response to the rejection of claim 33 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) by reference, and reassert that Pyron does not teach or suggest, "receiving a plurality of tasks that are collaboratively performed between parties *via a web page-based input interface*." (emphasis added). Second, applicants respectfully submit that the deficiencies of Pyron are not remedied by the Examiner's official

notice that it is well known that project management systems can indicate locations where tasks are performed.

Accordingly, the cited reference to Pyron and the Examiner's official notice, whether individually or in combination, do not teach, disclose or fairly suggest the system recited in claim 33. Furthermore, since claim 34 depends from claim 33, it is at least allowable for the same reason that makes claim 33 allowable over the cited references, as well as for additional limitations recited.

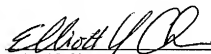
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the above-proposed amendments be entered and that pending claims 1-7, 18-22, and 33-35 be allowed. If there are any remaining matters that may be handled by telephone conference, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

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By:


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